

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 7, 2007 has been received and reviewed by the applicant. Claims 1-2 and 6-8 are in the application. Claims 1-2 and 6-8 stand rejected. Reconsideration is respectfully submitted.

Claims 1-2 and 6-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response, claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 are amended.

The rejection states that certain portions relied upon (i.e., "initializing a current configuration that is randomly selected") are not recited in the claims. It is respectfully pointed out that element (c) (i) claims this limitation. This is not to be confused with (b) (i) which is a different limitation.

The rejection also states that Applicant has not provided any evidence of teaching away. In this regard, it is pointed out that "random" as claimed is opposite in meaning to "predetermined order" as in the prior art reference. Given this, the prior art reference teaches the exact opposite from the claimed invention and, as such, teaches away.

Should the Examiner consider that additional amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the favor is requested of a telephone call to the undersigned counsel for the purpose of discussing such amendments.

For the reasons set forth above, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.